

Western Mass READY

Rapid Emergency Action
Depends on You

Get Prepared in 4 Easy Steps

STEP 1: MAKE A PLAN

- Give family members the phone number of an out-of-town contact who is unlikely to be affected by a local emergency.
- Choose a familiar place where your family can meet. Choose an out-of-town location too in case you're evacuated.
- Plan for the needs of children, the elderly and pets.
- Learn your town's evacuation routes and sheltering plans.
- Know the emergency plans for places like work, school, day care, etc. Add that information to your family's plan.
- Practice your plan with household members. Make sure everyone knows what to do in an emergency.

STEP 2: MAKE TWO EMERGENCY KITS*

Kit 1

72-hour Home Emergency Kit

3-days of supplies for your household members and pets.

- Water-1-gallon per person, per day
- Non-perishable food
- Hand operated can opener
- Hard-wired, land line phone
- First-Aid Kit
- Extra clothing and blankets
- Battery-operated radio and flashlight
- Cash- ATMs may not be in service
- Books/games
- Personal hygiene supplies, soap, shampoo, etc.
- Medications/ Hand sanitizer
- Bleach, unscented for sterilizing drinking water
- Infant formula, food and diapers
- Pet food

Kit 2

Evacuation Go-Bag

Prepare one Go-Bag for each household member in a backpack or easy-to-carry container and put an I.D. tag on each. Consider keeping a kit in your car. A Go-Bag contains most of the same items as your 72-hour Home Emergency Kit. Some other items to add are:

- Whistle
- Dust mask and disposable gloves
- Pocket knife
- Cash in small denominations, quarters for phone calls
- Some water and food
- Permanent marker, paper and tape
- Pet photo, copies of all immunizations, etc.
- Copies of important documents and contact numbers
- Warm hats, gloves, coats

STEP 3: STAY INFORMED

Be prepared for when emergencies occur. Stay informed with battery-powered, generator-powered or crank-powered radios. Have plenty of batteries in your emergency kit.

Educate yourself and your family about your community's emergency preparedness resources:

- Where are the nearest shelters in your town or county?
- How will you get news if a disaster strikes?
- What is your town's evacuation route?
- How will you get local emergency information?

STEP 4: GET INVOLVED

Be prepared to help your neighbors. It's important to get to know your neighbors now, before an emergency happens. Here are some ways you can get involved:

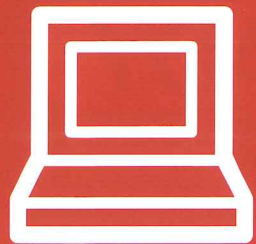
- **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT):** Trains citizens to prepare for and respond to emergencies in their communities. www.citizencorps.gov/cert
- **Western Mass. Medical Reserve Corps (WMMRC):** Community volunteers, including medical professionals, who help prepare for and respond to emergencies in their own region. www.wmmrc.org
- **Neighborhood Watch:** Partner with police, town agencies and the court system to help fight crime in your town. Call your town or city hall for more information.

IN AN EMERGENCY:

Call 911 only for emergency medical, fire, or police response

Call 511 for road information

Call 211 for general emergency information and access to resources



*For more information and a complete list of kit supplies visit **WesternMassREADY.org**

EMERGENCIES HAPPEN — Get Prepared Stay Informed Be READY

Man-made and natural disasters can happen at any time and often strike without warning. While emergencies can be stressful and disturbing, personal planning helps ensure that you and your family are prepared, informed and ready to survive and recover.

The Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council has identified four simple steps you can take so you are Western Mass READY for any emergency.

For details, please visit WesternMassREADY.org or visit your city or town hall.



RESOURCES: MASSACHUSETTS:

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
www.mass.gov/mema

Mass 2-1-1
www.mass211help.org

Executive Office of Public Safety & Security
www.mass.gov/eopss

NATIONAL:

American Red Cross
www.RedCross.org

Department of Homeland Security
www.dhs.gov

Disability Preparedness
www.disability.gov

Disaster Assistance
www.disasterassistance.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency
www.fema.gov

READY for individuals, businesses, communities
www.ready.gov

Emergencies in Western Mass could include:

- Extreme Cold/Heat
- Hazardous Materials
- Floods
- Forest Fires
- Nor'easters
- Ice Storms/Snow Storms
- Emerging Diseases and Pandemics (especially Flu)
- Power Outages
- Terrorism
- Tornadoes and high winds
- Water Supply Emergencies
- Earthquakes

